



Joe
Hogue/DC/USEPA/US@
EPA

09/21/2004 04:26 PM

To: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov
cc:
Subject: Fw: Comment to Fwd: EPA Seeks Comment on Proposed Pesticide
Emergency Exemption Process Rule

----- Forwarded by Joe Hogue/DC/USEPA/US on 09/21/2004 04:20 PM -----

The Happy Berry
Bunch
Hogue/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
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erry.com>
Seeks Comment on Proposed Pesticide Emergency
09/16/2004 02:26
PM

To: Joe
cc: bblngr@CLEMSON.EDU
Subject: Comment to Fwd: EPA
Exemption Process Rule

Dear Mr. Hogue,

I commend the EPA for Reviewing the process. The changes below are good and warranted. I have an additional suggestion. Section 18's should be capable of being regional where the Land Grant universities have become regional in providing the Extension services. As a grower in South Carolina I am keenly aware that our extension service has lost 600 positions and no longer has adequately trained county agents or appropriate specialist to support the fruit industry in South Carolina. It has become an additional financial drain just get information to run our business. Even with the web you have to know when and where to go looking. Newsletter help, but they cost when they don't come from your home state and frequently they are from regions which are environmentally different. Costly trips to neighboring states is the only way now. In the past these SC specialist have sought requisite section 18's to support our industry. Without them the EPA will put us out of business because we will be unable to control pests as you cancel

the currently labeled products. As a small business I just do not have the resources to even provide the needed data let alone prepare the paper work for Section 18's. Thank you for your attention.

Walker Miller

See signature file at end of Message

X-ClientAddr: 130.127.28.87
X-Sender: bblngr@mail.clemson.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 5.1
Date: Wed, 15 Sep 2004 16:07:11 -0400
To: bblngr@CLEMSON.EDU
From: Bob Bellinger <bblngr@CLEMSON.EDU>
Subject: EPA Seeks Comment on Proposed Pesticide Emergency
Exemption
Process Rule
X-Spam-Level:
X-Scanned-By: mail MIMEDefang 2.43

**** Multiple recipients blind copied to reduce header ****

FYI in case you have not seen this yet.

EPA Seeks Comment on Proposed Pesticide Emergency Exemption
Process
Rule [Section 18's]

EPA is seeking public comment on a proposed rule that would streamline and improve the application and review process for pesticide emergency exemptions. The revisions would allow applicants for emergency exemptions (state and federal agencies) to:

- (1) generally use a re-certification application rather than a normal application in the second and third years for certain repeat requests, and
- (2) use a loss-based approach to substantiate a "significant economic loss" (the most commonly used criterion for demonstrating an emergency condition) rather than a comparison of revenues under the emergency to historical variations in revenues.

Both of these proposed revisions are currently being evaluated in a limited pilot program.

The Federal Register notice was published on September 3, 2004, and the comment deadline is November 3, 2004. A press advisory was issued on September 2, 2004. The revisions would reduce the burden to applicants and EPA, allow for quicker decisions by EPA, and provide more consistent and fairer determinations of "significant economic loss" as the basis for an emergency. The proposed revisions would not compromise protection of

human health or the environment, as the risk side of the assessment and exemption decision is not affected. EPA has received significant input from government agencies and other stakeholders in the development of this proposal.

Under Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, EPA can authorize an unregistered use of a pesticide on an emergency basis for a limited time. The Agency evaluates a request for emergency exemption of a particular pesticide use to ensure that a pest-related emergency exists and that use of the product will be protective of human health and the environment. The Federal Register notice containing the final rule is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/index.htm>.

For additional information please contact Joseph Hogue by phone at 703.308.9072, or by e-mail at hogue.joe@epa.gov
end

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Robert G. (Bob) Bellinger, Ph.D.

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